

**London Borough of Lambeth
Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places 2019
(Acting) Returning Officer Submission**

In accordance with statutory requirements under the Electoral Registration and Administration 2013 and Schedule A1 to the Representation of the People Act 1983, the following submission is made in my capacity as (Acting) Returning Officer for the following three UK parliamentary constituencies:

- Dulwich and West Norwood,
- Streatham
- Vauxhall

This submission relates to the proposed scheme of polling districts and polling places put forward for consultation as part of the review.

I am satisfied the scheme of polling districts and polling places adopted following the last statutory review in 2014/15 met the needs of voters. The purpose of this review is therefore to look at those arrangements and assess where any changes need to be made.

In accordance with statutory requirements and guidance from the Electoral Commission, I note the following have all been considered when arriving at proposals for the revised scheme:

- Number of electors allocated to a polling station
- Suitability of premises for use as polling stations
- All voters to have a relatively equal access to polling station
- Future changes to population

I am also aware the proposals take into account requests to avoid the use of schools in some cases. However, whilst the use of schools can be avoided in certain instances, there are often no suitable alternatives with guaranteed availability when elections take place. For this reason a significant proportion of designated polling stations in Lambeth remain as schools.

Overall, I am therefore satisfied that the parameters for drawing up the proposed scheme focus on meeting the needs of voters and comply with legal requirements and Electoral Commission guidance.

Andrew Travers
(Acting) Returning Officer for Dulwich and West Norwood, Streatham and Vauxhall UK
Parliamentary Constituencies

21 October 2019